

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02424 122303Z

73

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4691

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONGEN LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONGEN LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2424

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, PFOR, CV

SUBJ: FUTURE OF THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS

REF: LISBON 2903

1. WHILE MISSION CERTAINLY SHARES VIEW CONCERNING DESIRABILITY OF CAPE VERDE ISLANDS BEING DENIED TO ELEMENTS HOSTILE TO US INTERESTS, WE DOUBT THAT ANY FORM OF UN TRUSTEESHIP ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME. WE HAVE REACHED THIS CONCLUSION FOR THREE REASONS:

A. "AUTOMATIC MAJORITY", E.G. "NON-ALIGNED" BLOC, AT UN WOULD NEVER SUPPORT SUCH A FORMULA. THERE WOULD BE LITTLE TO NO SYMPATHY GIVEN TO A PROPOSAL TO DELAY SELF-DETERMINATION THROUGH ESTABLISHMENT OF UN TRUSTEESHIP, ESPECIALLY WHILE A TRUST TERRITORY SUCH AS PAPUA NEW GUINEA IS ON VERGE OF INDEPENDENCE;

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PAGE 02 USUN N 02424 122303Z

B. LOGICALLY, IF CAPE VERDE ISLANDS WERE TO BECOME

TRUST TERRITORY, PORTUGAL WOULD BE ADMINISTERING
POWER. A DETAILED AGREEMENT WOULD BE NECESSARY,
THE COMPLETION OF WHICH PORTUGAL MIGHT FIND
DIFFICULT. FURTHER, EVEN IF FORMULA DID MEET WITH
APPROVAL, ITS ACCEPTANCE BY PORTUGAL WOULD ACCENTUATE,
RATHER THAN DIMINISH GOP RESPONSIBILITY FOR \$40 MILLION
ANNUAL SUPPORT; AND

C. UK ITSELF IS TRYING TO DISPOSE OF TRUST TERRITORIES
AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, CLEARLY WISHING TO GET OUT
OF TRUSTEESHIP BUSINESS.

2. BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT PORTUGUESE SHOULD NOT BE ENCOURAGED TO
SEEK UN TRUSTEESHIP AS A FEASIBLE SOLUTION. FURTHER, WE
WOULD SUGGEST THAT USG NOT GET INVOLVED IN ARGUING MERITS OF
THIS CASE.
BENNETT

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